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BEATRIX

By Steve Gallacci: Taral Wayne and Kathryn Bolinger

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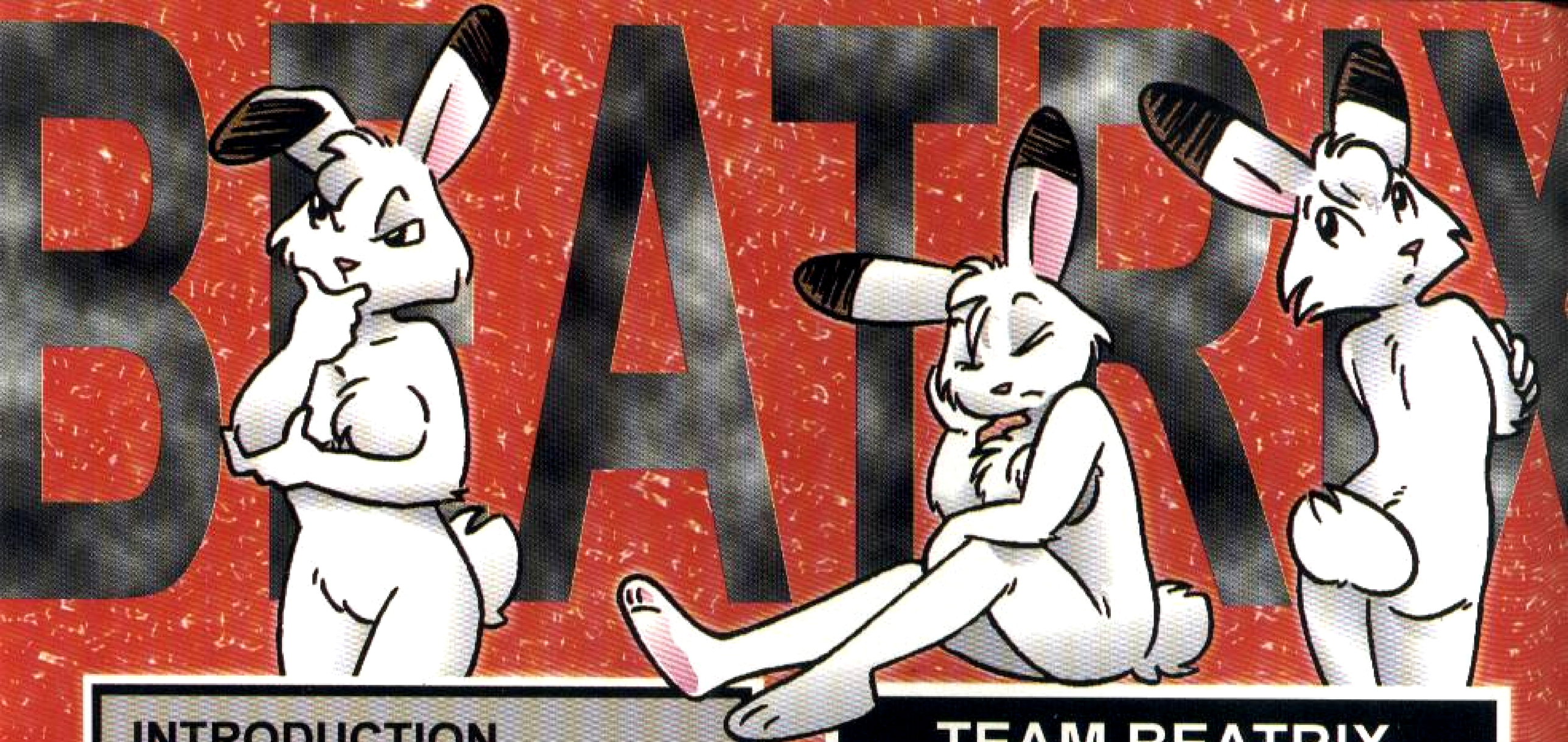

INTRODUCTION

You hold in your hands the very first issue of the tales of Beatrix Farmer. This book is dedicated to a different vision of a world with super-powered individuals in it; one more fun yet grounded in the way things might be than any campy, high-powered comic containing characters that can push planets around.

Beatrix Farmer was originally published by MU Press in an earlier black-and-white, hand-lettered form that did not have the "Moving Day" prelude.

This comic, Beatrix, is one of the very rarest types of comics to be found out there. A full color, high quality, digitally reworked book, blending two often diametrically opposed genres -- superheroes and anthropomorphics. We very seriously recommend bagging & saving this title. Due to Marvel's Bankruptcy in January, sales of this issue were less than happy! So few copies of Beatrix sold as a result (under 2,000 copies!), this issue stands a very good chance of increasing significantly in value.

Keep your eyes peeled for more great Vision Comics coming soon! Or, write to us below for our latest news updates and mailings.

TEAM BEATRIX

CONCEPT
STEVEN A. GALLACCI

STORY
STEVEN A. GALLACCI
TARAL WAYNE

PEN & INK
TARAL WAYNE

DIGITAL COLORING
KATHRYN BOLINGER

LETTERING
DARRELL BENVENUTO

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PRINTED IN CANADA

LE'ME SEE - NORTH ON EAST, SEVEN BLOCKS TO SIXTH STREET?

UGH! THE MERITS OF POWER STEERING COME QUICKLY TO MIND...

AND SOMETHING BIGGER UNDER THE HOOD IF I HAVE TO LUG ALL THESE BOOKS UPHILL!

"MOVING DAY"

ZOO L
BOOKS

EEP!

THIS MUST BE THE PLACE...

37RD

HEY! DOROTHY! ARE YOU UP THERE?

BEA? THAT YOU?

IF YOU'D EVER LEARNED TO READ A MAP, IT WOULD HELP! GLAD YOU MADE IT.

WHAT KEPT YOU?

THE LOUSY "DIRECTIONS" **YOU** GAVE ME!

ME, TOO. GLAD TO SEE YOU AGAIN, "SHORTY".

AH... YOUR "LIBRARY"?

YEAH... NEVER CAN LET GO OF A GOOD BOOK.

HMM... GOT ANY IDEA AS TO **HOW** WE'RE GETTING 'EM UP?

GOT IT ALL **IN** MYSELF. SHOULDN'T BE **THAT** HARD.

AND THEN AGAIN...

THE PLACE DIDN'T LOOK THIS HIGH FROM OUTSIDE!

OHMYGODOHMYGODOHMYGOD! THESE WERE NEVER THIS HEAVY BEFORE!

3 FLIGHTS LATER...

THIS ISN'T SO BAD. SOME AWFUL DECORATION SENSE, THOUGH...

???

S'CUSE ME, MA'AM? WHERE DO YOU WANT ME TO PUT THESE?

!HUH?

OH. ANY PLACE.

GOSH, GUYS. I REALLY APPRECIATE THE HELP.

HC FIRSTS

US HISTORY

SF ALDISS TO DICK

DISCH TO MACAULAY

YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS.

♫ WHATEVER WORKS... ♩

JUST LOOK HOW FAST IT'S GOING.

HMPH. SO MUCH FOR PROGRESSIVE, SELF-RELIANT GENDER EQUALITY.

COME ON, BEA. STRONG BACKS AND WEAK MINDS ARE ONLY GOOD FOR *TWO* THINGS, EH?

GEE! CHAUCER! "WHAN THAT APPRILLE WITH HIS SHOURES SOOTE..."

COMICS A-F

KIDDY LIT EAPANAGE

MORE MYSTERY

LIGHT

EAD POETS

QUICK, YOU SHOW 'EM WHERE TO PUT IT ALL, AND I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.

ER, THANKS. AND... UM... ≡ YEESH ≡

SLADEK TO WOLFE

MY MEDIEVAL VOLUMES!

WOW. MARGERY KEMPE. CHRETIENE DE TROYS. BEDE. GOOD STUFF!

OH? HOW' BOUT "PARZIFAL"?

SOLD IT AFTER GRAD SCHOOL. NEVER GOT INTO THE ORIGINAL 12TH-CENTURY GERMAN...

GEE, A GNOME PRESS FIRST.

SO THE HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY IS DIFFERENT THAN THE PHILOSOPHY OF HISTORY.

JANE JACOBS OH BOY!

NAAKIDI NEEZNÁDIIN DÓÓ BA'AA NÁHÁST'ÉÍ NÁÁHAÍ KINTEEL BITA' DINÉTAH

"... LICKING THE ARSE OF A LEP'ROUS HANGMAN." NO WONDER THE SCHOOL LEFT SO MUCH LATIN UNTRANSLATED IN CATULLUS.

YUCK.

WHAT ABOUT SUSAN SONTAG ?

ALL THE LIT CRIT GOES IN THAT PILE, EXCEPT THE FEM LIT, WHICH GOES OVER THERE...

POW, ZOOM?

♪ ANYBODY THIRRRRSTY?

GENUINE CANAJIN 5% BEER

OCH! A WEE DRAPIE WOULD GO DOWN RATHER BRAE!

BHEER?

BEVERAGES? WELL, WELL!

DIGIBON

DOROTHY? WHERE HAVE YOU *BEEN*?

SEE HOW EASY IT IS TO GET UNPACKED WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM SELECTED NEIGHBORS?

RIGHT. NOW WE'LL HAVE EVERY MALE WITHIN A MILE OF HERE HITTING ON US FOR DATES AND SUCH.

AND IS **THAT** SUCH A BAD THING?

I TAKE IT, THEN, THAT YOU'VE CHANGED NONE OF YOUR WICKED WAYS.

ASST. REF.

PIZZA

SIGH. I KNEW SHARING ROOMS WITH YOU'D BE INTERESTING.

BEATRIX MY DEAR, YOU DON'T KNOW THE **HALF** OF IT!

— PAUSE

"THE NOT SO SECRET ORIGIN" OF BEATRIX FARMER

BEATRIX FARMER IS A NORMAL, EVERYDAY GIRL. SHE HAS THE USUAL TROUBLES AT HOME AND AT WORK. TODAY, SHE WAKES TO FIND SHE HAS THE FLU. BUT THE DAY WILL ONLY GET WORSE... **MUCH WORSE.**

RING RING RING

UNK ACK?

ONK SNUF HORK

HI, BEA.

ER, HOW YA DOIN'?

I'M GLAD YOU FEEL AS GOOD AS YOU **LOOK.**

YOU'RE UP TO SOME BAD NEWS, THEN. RALPH'S RUN OFF WITH PEGGY...

MY COFFEE'S COLD.

UM... I GUESS IT'S NOT A GOOD TIME TO MENTION MR. TURGEDSON, THE THE LANDLORD, SAYS HE DIDN'T GET OUR RENT CHECK. AND...

... YOU'RE LATE FOR WORK.

OUCH OUCH

NOC NOC NOC

NO! NO!

9:35 A.M.

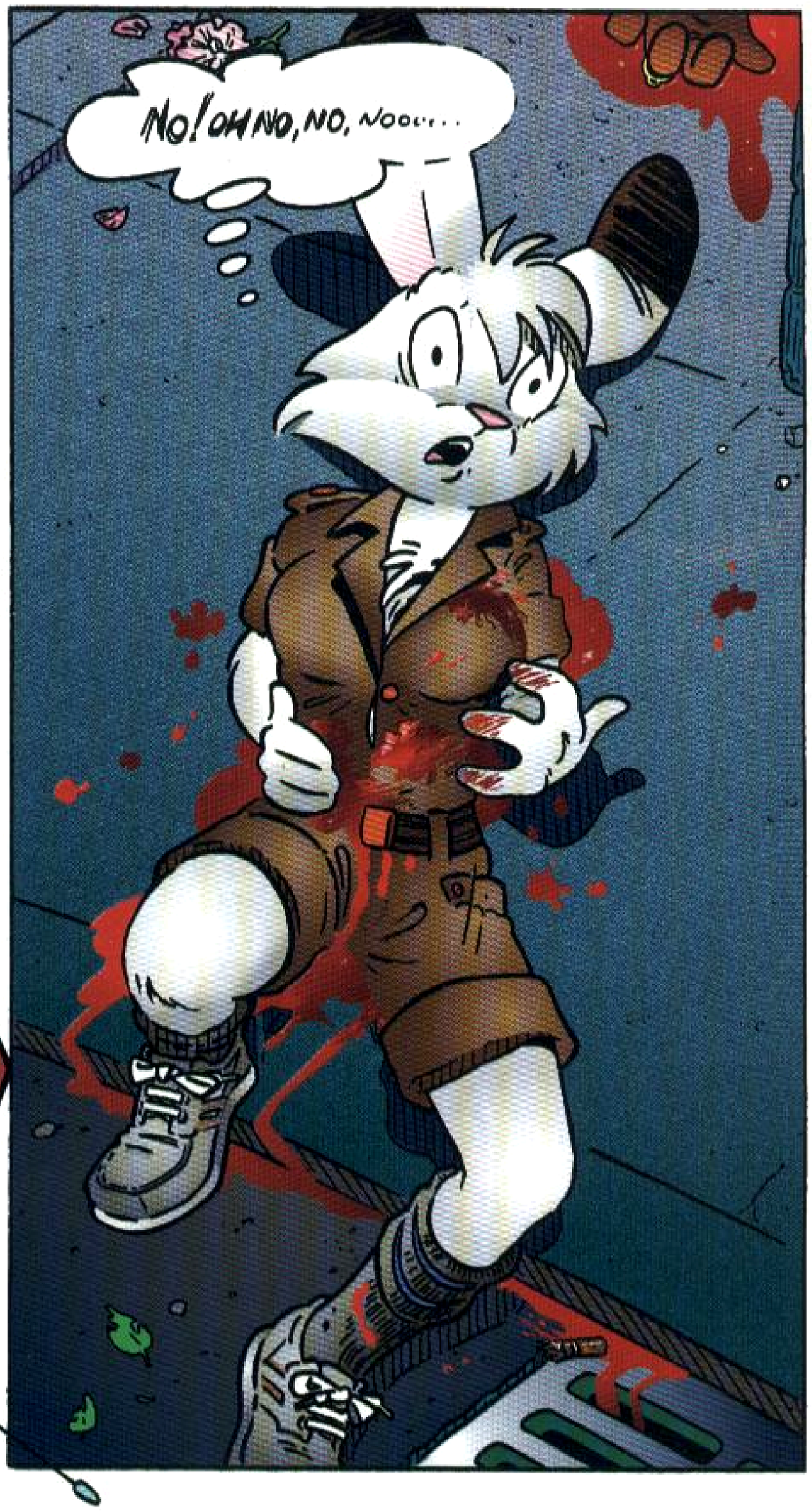
RALPH'S TAKEN OFF **AGAIN.** I'M **BROKE.** TURGEDSEN'S PISSED THE RENT'S GONNA BE LATE. CHEAP @#★!!

HURT ★ SNUF HURT

TO COOL TO LIVE.

WHAT **ELSE** CAN HAPPEN?

PAC PAC PAC PAC



RATS.

RATS?

THERE WE GO.

FIAT LUX.

LNNNH. DIDN'T I WAKE UP TODAY ALREADY?

LIKE... WHERE AM I?

SHE HAS A SENSE OF HUMOR.

TOLD YOU.

KIND OF CUTE, FOR A BIPED.

GOOD MORNING!

♩ TA-DAAA! ♫

VOICES?

MUSIC?

SOMETHING TELLS ME I'M NOT IN KANSAS.

IMPRESSED?

SHE SHOULD BE.

HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE RISEN FROM THE GRAVE AND ALL? DID WE GET IT RIGHT?

ARE YOU A TRAUMA-INDUCED HALLUCINATION, OR IS THIS SOME KIND OF HIGH-TECH VERSION OF THE PEARLY GATES?

SHE LOOKS FRIENDLIER NEKKID.

AND SHE **DOES** HAVE A TAIL!

I THINK SHE HAS US CONFUSED WITH SOMEONE ELSE.

SHOULD WE TELL HER?

WE HAVE TO SOMETIME.

SO DO I.

WELL, THANKS... I THINK...

WHY?

WHY NOT?

GOOD POINT!

HI! WE'RE HYPER-INTELLIGENT, PAN-DIMENSIONAL BEINGS. WE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE... ENTERTAINING TO SAVE YOUR LIFE.

WE HAVE A SENSE OF HUMOR, TOO.

I DO NOT.

WELL, I DO!

LOOK, YOU'RE NOT GOING TO PERFORM GRUESOME KINDS OF EXPERIMENTS ON ME, ARE YOU?

OH, **NO.**

NO?

NO!

HEAVEN FORBID!

FURTHEST THING FROM OUR MINDS.

YOU'RE A NICE KID. JUST GOT SOME UNLUCKY BREAKS.

WE WERE IN THE AREA, AND SAW OUR CHANCE.

THOUGHT WE'D DO YOU A SMALL FAVOR.

YEAH, SMALL.

SO, WE'RE HERE TO HELP.

SORT OF.

NO, REALLY.

NOT THAT I'M UNGRATEFUL... SHOT FULL OF HOLES LIKE THAT, I WAS DEAD MEAT!

BUT IT'S LIKE I'M IN SOME "B" MOVIE – "I WAS KIDNAPPED BY AN ALIEN BEACH BALL!"

YOU LIKE WATER SPORTS?

SURPRISE!

EEP!

HOPE YOU LIKE IT!

WE THINK IT HAS A CERTAIN *JE NE SAIS QUOI.*

WHAT DID WE JUST SAY?

NOW, IF YOU'D JUST GET MY CLOTHES AND WALLET FOR ME... AND THE CONTENTS -- CASH, CREDIT CARD, DRIVER'S LICENSE... MY LUCKY DIME! LOSING THOSE JUST MIGHT BE <u>WORSE</u> THAN DEATH!

TROUBLES, TROUBLES, TROUBLES.

NO WORRY! WE SAID WE WERE HERE TO HELP!

OH? WE GOT SOMETHING IN MIND?

YOU BET!

I DON'T KNOW. WHAT?

IT'S... IT'S... **SMOOTH.**

YES, NEARLY FRICTIONLESS. VERY EASY TO KEEP CLEAN.

WHAT **IS** IT?

WELL... THINK OF IT AS AN EFFECT, RATHER THAN ACTUAL MATERIAL. IT'S "FELT", BUT IT'S NOT "THERE".

OKAY... **WHY** IS IT?

A GOOD QUESTION!

I TOLD YOU SHE WAS CLEVER FOR A CORPOREAL BEING.

YEAH.

YOU SEEM TO BE ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE THAT HAVE A "VICTIM" TYPE PERSONALITY.

BELIEVE IT!

GET ON WITH IT AND TELL HER.

DON'T YOU THINK SHE'LL FIGURE IT OUT HERSELF?

SHE WON'T.

SHE WILL!

SHUSH!

YOU MIGHT CALL IT AN "INVULNERABILITY" SUIT. IT PROTECTS YOU FROM **EVERYTHING.**

WE SAW SOMETHING LIKE IT ONCE IN ANOTHER CONTINUUM.

AND WHAT'S THE ***CATCH?***

CATCH? CATCH?

NO CATCH.

NOT REALLLY...

HEY! HOW'S THIS COME OFF?

WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO PULL?

JUST LIKE WE SAID. INVULNERABILITY ISN'T A THING YOU PUT ON OR TAKE OFF. YOU HAVE TO BE SAFE FULL TIME TO BE SAFE AT ALL.

ROUND THE CLOCK... DAY IN, DAY OUT... YEAR AFTER...

YOU-IDIOTS!

I'VE GOT... =SHEESH= "BIOLOGICAL PROCESSES", YOU KNOW!

NOT ANY MORE!

WE'VE GOT THAT COVERED!

NOW, YOU'RE FREE OF ALL NORMAL BIOLOGICAL PROCESSES, INPUT OR OUTPUT.

YOU SEE? YOU'LL BE JUST FINE.

YEAH, ENJOY.

YOU CAN EAT, IF YOU LIKE. THE SUIT WILL DUMP WASTES INTO SUBSPACE.

SO HAVE FUN.

WE'LL KEEP IN TOUCH!

SEE YA...

WHAT?

NO. WAIT! MY WALLET.

YOU IDIOTS! I NEED MY WALLET. MY MONEY, MY I.D. MY VIDEO CLUB MEMBERSHIP!

MY KEYS ARE IN IT!

YOU G!!★⚡☠ PAN-DIMENSIONAL JERKS!

YOU—

—OOPS.

WHO, ME? I... UH...

'SCUSE ME, MA'AM. JUST HAPPEN TO SEE YOU STANDING HERE. DON'T S'POSE YOU SAW ANYTHING *EITHER*.

POLICE

YUCH

PD

TSK TSK

NO... I GUESS **NOT.**

DIDN'T THINK SO. HAVE A NICE DAY, MA'AM.

FLETCHER ST.

AVILA ST.

ACK THAT'S WHERE I WAS. IT... IT'S ALL **REAL!**

WEIRD KID. PROBLY ON DRUGS.

I'M GONNA BE SICK!

GREAT! MY WALLET. MY I.D. KEYS... KEYS! DAMMIT! I'LL HAVE TO WAIT 'TILL DOROTHY'S HOME TO GET IN TONIGHT. NOW I JUST HOPE I STILL HAVE A JOB! NO BUS TOKENS – GUESS I'LL HAVE TO WALK ALL THE WAY. AT LEAST I DON'T FEEL SICK ANY MORE...

THE BEWITCHING!

COMICS
GRAPHIC NOVELS

SHERMI'S
RESTAURANT

GRAVEL VOICE

WELLL... FARMER? LATE NIGHT EGIN?

OOPS! UH, 'MORNING, MR. KRANTZ.

SMILE

Y'KNOW, FARMER, I COULD PUT UP WIT YER HOURS AN' SCREWY IDEAS IF YEW WERE GONNA DRESS LIKE DAT MORE OFFEN! HEH HEH!

MISTER KRANTZ.

SMILE

I APOLOGIZE FOR MY INADVERDENTLY TARDY ARRIVAL. I WAS DELAYED BY INEXPEDITIOUS EN ROUTE CIRCUMSTANCES.

EH?

EH?

BUT I DO NOT HAVE TO TOLERATE SEXUAL HARRASSMENT.

TIME CARD

A'RIGHT, A'RIGHT! DON'T GETCHER TAIL INNA KNOT, OKAY? IF YER WANNA MAKE WIT' DE BACK-TALK, TAKE YER DUB-YUS TALENTS AND YER FUNNY CLOTHES ELSEWHERES. GET MY DRIFT, HONEY?

YOU KNOW... THAT'S THE FIRST GOOD IDEA YOU'VE HAD SINCE I TOOK THIS SEEDY JOB!

SMILE

CRUMPLE

OH WELL...

AT LEAST THOSE WEIRD PAN-DIMENSIONAL WHOSIES SEEM TO'VE GOTTEN **ONE** THING RIGHT. I'M NOT GETTING TIRED FROM ALL THIS WALKING. I'M NOT *HUNGRY*. I'M NOT *THIRSTY*.

I HAVEN'T FELT THE NEED TO TAKE A LEAK IN HOURS. OR ANYTHING ELSE BELOW THE BELT, FOR THAT MATTER.

REED ST.

FLETCHER STREET

IRMA'S VARIETY

THE REAL STUFF

MURATA - VIDE

ANIME

TRASH

WHAT TO DO, WHAT TO DO.

BESIDES WAIT FOR MY ROOMIE TO GET HOME, THAT IS... OBVIOUSLY THIS SUIT DOESN'T PREVENT BOREDOM.

OH GAWD.

IT'S STARTING TO RAIN, AND GUESS WHAT? I CAN'T EVEN GET **WET!** HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO WALLOW IN SELF-PITY IF I CAN'T EVEN GET PROPERLY RAIN-SOAKED?

HEY BEA?!

UH, *"INTERESTING"* OUTFIT. NOT REALLY YOUR COLOR, THOUGH. AND YOU'RE SITTING OUT IN THE RAIN. NOT LOCKED OUT?

SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

OKAY. **HOW COME?**

UMM... WHAT'S YOUR FEELINGS ABOUT... ABOUT...

SUPERHEROES?

WOULDN'T WANT TO DATE ONE. WHY DO YOU ASK?

I NOTICE YOU'RE NOT WET.

IS THERE SOMETHING YOU WANT TO *TELL* ME?

WELL...

NO, BUT...

IT'S A *LONG* STORY...

STREET ST

LATER, AFTER A LONG, EXPOSITORY LUMP...

YOU'LL FEEL BETTER AFTER A BITE TO EAT.

NOT HUNGRY. =SIGH=

THEY FIXED THAT, TOO.

BUT I'LL HELP CLEAR THE TABLE...

HEY! WHAT?

IT MOVES AWAY... I CAN'T TOUCH IT!

OKAY... SLOWLY... CAREFUL... CARRE...

WUPS!

COME ON, BEA. TRY AGAIN. YOU CAN GET IT.

POINT BROKE, TOO. NOTICE?

=CONCENTRATION=

SQUISH

TA DA!

WELL... YAWN I'M TURNING IN EARLY. SEE YOU IN THE MORNING, BEA.

OH NOOOO... I CAN'T SLEEP EITHER!

MORNING INEVITABLY COMES...

I'M SORRY, 007 - YOU ARE TOO SEXY FOR YOUR HAIR, BUT I'M SAVING MYSELF FOR MR. RIGHT.

OH, YEAH. THAT WAS ONLY A DREAM. JUST LIKE THE ONE ABOUT BEA IN A METALLIC SUPERHERO SUIT.

?

IT *WAS* A DREAM?

OF COURSE, IT WAS JUST A SILLY DREAM.

LIKE THE ONE I'M HAVING **NOW** ABOUT HAVING A SPARKLY-CLEAN BATHROOM.

HEY **BEA?** AM I STILL ASLEEP? FOR THE RENT WE PAY, WE NEVER GOT MAID SERVICE BEFORE...

SAY...

IT **IS** CLEAN.

HAVE SOME COFFEE?

FRESH POT.

UH, **SURE**....

CLEAN CUP, TOO.

CLEAN SAUCER...

CLEAN SPOON...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING *UP?*

ER, WELL... I **NEVER WENT TO BED.** I WAS AWAKE ANYWAY, SO I CLEANED THE BATHROOM... AND THE KITCHEN... LIVING ROOM, SUNROOM, HALL, WINDOWS... IN FACT, THE WHOLE PLACE, TOP TO BOTTOM. I GUESS I'VE NO FATIGUE POISONS TO MAKE ME FEEL TIRED ANY MORE.

SPARKLE

ULP!

THAT'S WHAT YOU WERE DOING --- ALL NIGHT?

YEAH, BUT ONLY **AFTER** I SORTED ALL OF THE BOOKS FIRST! THIS SUIT DOES EVERYTHING FOR ME EXCEPT KILL TIME!

DID YOU KNOW WE HAVE SIXTEEN DIFFERENT BOOKS BY SEVEN GUYS, **ALL NAMED WILSON?**

NOT TO MENTION A COUPLE BY A "WILSON TUCKER".

IF YOU THINK **THAT'S** BAD, I MADE A MIDNIGHT SNACK AT 3 AM, AND COULDN'T TASTE A BITE!

I JUST FELT IT, ALL SQUISHY-LIKE, IN MY MOUTH.

SAME WITH ALCOHOL. I DRANK HALF OF THAT CHEAP GIN OF YOURS, JUST TO SEE IF IT WOULD HAVE ANY EFFECT.

NOTHING.

THOUGHT I'D *AT LEAST* THROW UP.

PLEASE, BEA! I'M TRYING TO HAVE BREAKFAST!

WAIT - YOU DRANK MY GIN? I WAS SAVING THAT FOR BOBBY, AND **DAMMIT**, IT WASN'T THAT **CHEAP!**

BOBBY DOESN'T DRINK.

SLAM

OOK!

GAK

I KNOW. HE TURNS THE MOST SPECTACULAR GREEN, THOUGH. I FILL MY MOUTH WITH 80-PROOF **BEFORE** TONGUE WRESTLING, AND HE'S WELL-BEHAVED ALL NIGHT...

I KNEW YOU WERE CRUEL, DOROTHY, BUT I HAD **NO** IDEA...

ANYWAY... GETTING BACK TO THE **SUIT**, I NOT ONLY DIDN'T GET PLASTERED, BUT IT DIDN'T EVEN HAVE A BITE. MIGHT AS WELL HAVE BEEN WATER FOR ALL I COULD TELL...

WATCH THIS.

BEA!

GEE, THAT'S QUITE AN EFFECT! BUT... BUT... DON'T *EVER* DO THAT AGAIN!

WHAT, AND WASTE ALL THE **PRACTICE** I PUT IN, WAITING FOR YOU TO WAKE UP?

I USED TO **LOVE** COFFEE. NOW, IT'S NOT EVEN ***WARM*** TO ME. I SUPPOSE I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL THAT A LATE-NIGHT CUP WONT KEEP ME AWAKE ANY MORE.

IT'S LIKE HAVING ON A RE-A-A-ALLY **BORING** FULL-BODY CONDOM.

WELL, AT THIS RATE, WE'LL SAVE ENOUGH ON **GROCERIES** TO PAY FOR BURNING THE LIGHTS ALL NIGHT.

HOW'S THIS GOING TO AFFECT YOUR, UM... "ON AGAIN, OFF AGAIN" AFFAIR WITH **RALPH?**

MAILBOX BOOKS

OH, I DON'T KNOW. HE'S IN A KIND OF SELFISH MODE RIGHT NOW... MORE INTERESTED IN **GRATIFICATION** THAN IN HOW *I* FEEL. WITH THIS HYPER-DIMENSIONAL CHASTITY BELT ON, HE'LL BE EVEN ***LESS*** SUPPORTIVE, IF POSSIBLE.

NO, NO... I WAS THINKING MORE ABOUT YOU AND YOUR, UM... "**UNNATURAL**" NATURAL APPETITIES. HOW'S YOUR

LIBIDO?

UM -- YEAH, THAT'S ANOTHER THING I DON'T THINK THIS SUIT ACCOMODATES FOR. I WASN'T ***DESPERATE*** BEFORE I GOT STUCK WITH THIS -- AND RIGHT AT THE MOMENT, I **FEEL** PERFECTLY NORMAL. BUT... WHAT IF I ***DO*** GET THE URGE? WILL I EVEN ***GET*** THE URGE?

I'VE GOT A BAD FEELING THAT'S ***ALSO*** A NEED THIS DUMB SUIT ELIMINATES . . .

SAY!

WHO ARE **YOU** TO TALK ABOUT **MY** "UNNATURAL" APPETITES? COLD SAUSAGES WITH TERIYAKI SAUCE?

UGH!

TIME ENOUGH TO WORRY ABOUT YOUR PROBLEMS LATER -- I HAVE A **JOB** TO GO TO. I'M NOT EVEN DRESSED! WE'LL TALK SOON.

BYE-EEE

THAT REMINDS ME -- I HAVE TO **FIND** A NEW JOB. NO TIME LIKE THE PRESENT. HMM... NOT MUCH FOR A MEDIEVAL MAJOR WITH EXPERIENCE IN A TRAVEL AGENCY...

OR WITHOUT.

SURE, WHY NOT? I **LIKE** BEING A WILLING TOOL OF FATE -- **HA!** I MIGHT AS WELL CASH IN ON IT.

EXPOSED TO GAMMA RAYS?
OWN A MAGIC RING?
COME FROM ANOTHER WORLD?

IF YOU HAVE A CRAVING FOR ACTION AND SPANDEX TIGHTS, THE **IOHS-PNP** CAN FIND YOU PLACEMENTS ACROSS THE COUNTRY, OR AROUND THE WORLD. **AND BEYOND!** VISIT YOUR LOCAL OFFICE FOR OUR FULL LINE OF AGENCY SERVICES TODAY

IOHS — PNP

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF HEROIC SERVICES - PARANORMAL POWERS

ON THE DOWNTOWN BUS...

SIGH.

LOOK MA! A SOOPERHERO!

I BET SHE'S IN HER **SECRET** IDENIDY!

SEE! SHE'S LOOKING AWAY!

STOP **BOTHERING** THE NICE LADY, FREDDY. REMEMBER LAST TIME?

IT COST YOUR FATHER $1000 TO HAVE YOU **RE**-TRANSFORMED WHEN YOU DIDN'T STOP PESTERING THAT **AWFUL** WIZARD.

WILL YA ZAP KEVIN? HE'S RE-E-E-AL **BAAAD!** I BET HE GROWS UP TO BE A SUPERVILLAIN!

YOU'RE ONE OF THE ***X-IMALS,*** ® AREN'T YA?

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≡SIGH≡ I'M HERE ABOUT A **JOB,** I GUESS. ER... SUPERHEROING, THAT IS.

NEW ACCOUNT? SEE MR. BEAN.

MS. VAN CAMP

AHEM... MR. BEAN?

YEAH? NEW TALENT, IS IT? YOU'RE NOT **LOOKING** LIKE ANYTHING SPECIAL.

NO, I GUESS NOT, BUT I'VE NEVER...

YEAH, YEAH, SO WHAT **IS** IT? A SPONTANEOUS MUTATION, THEN? DRINK A MAGIC POTION? TAKE A COURSE IN THE BACK OF A COMIC?

PRES. SAUL M. BEAN

OH, HYPER-INTELLIGENT, PAN-DIMENSIONAL BOY SCOUTS STUCK ME IN A SILLY LOOKING SUIT THAT MAKES ME INVULNERABLE.

ALIEN SUPERHERO SUIT? BEEN DONE. SUGGESTION OF BONDAGE, YET. MAY HAVE POSSIBILITIES, THOUGH... LET'S HAVE A LOOK, ALREADY.

HMMM. HUM. WELL, WELL... IT **COULD** BE WORSE. IT'S NOT YOUR COLOR, AND DOES NOTHING FOR YOUR FIGURE -- TOO ZAFTIG! THE THING IS, IT'S JUST NOT **FLASHY** ENOUGH. IT COULD USE, MAYBE, SOME SORT OF ACCENTS TO BREAK UP THOSE LINES. A COLORFUL SYMBOL? A VISOR MIGHT BE NICE.

COSTUM

SO... YOU WANT TO TAKE IT OFF, AND I'LL SEE IF I CAN WORK UP SOMETHING WITH GENUINE **HERO** APPEAL. IMPROVE YOUR **RECOGNITION FACTOR** - KNOW WHAT I MEAN?

TAKE IT *OFF?* ARE YOU **KIDDING?**

IT **DOESN'T** COME OFF! AND IF IT DID, I WOULDN'T BE **INVULNERABLE,** WOULD I?

WAIT ALREADY! I WAS **CLEARED** OF ALL CHARGES! HAS **SHE** BEEN TALKING AGAIN?

NO! I MEAN IT **WON'T COME OFF!**

HOW'S THAT?

OY! ONE OF **THOSE.** PITY. IT'S JUST **NOT** YOUR COLOR.

SO I TELL YOU WHAT – IT'S **REALLY** INVULNERABLE? NO OBSCURE WEAKNESSES OR SURPRISE EXCEPTIONS?

HEY!

PING PING

WELL, THAT'S BUSINESS. SO WHAT THE HELL. **LATER** WE'LL FIND YOU AN ANGLE AND DO WHAT WE CAN TO BRIGHTEN UP THAT DISMAL MAROON.

FIRST, WE GET YOU UNDER *CONTRACT*

STANDARD FORM. MERE FORMALITY. LOOK IT OVER LIKE A GOOD GIRL AND I'LL BE BACK IN A SEC.

NONE I KNOW OF. I SUSPECT THOSE PAN-DIMENSIONAL GUYS WERE RIDICULOUSLY THOROUGH!

I MIGHT JUST HAVE SOMETHING FOR YOU, THEN. REALLY, **REALLY** INVULNERABLE TYPES AREN'T ALL THAT COMMON, YOU KNOW. ALWAYS SOMETHING SEEMS TO HAPPEN... AND **I'M** OUT A CLIENT!

HOLY SMOKE! THIS IS LONGER AND FULL OF WORSE GIBBERISH THAN MY STUDENT LOAN APPLICATION!

Ouo

HAZEL, I WANT YOU TO MEET MISS BEATRIX FARMER -- OUR NEW SUPERHERO! DIDN'T I TELL YOU SHE WAS JUST GREAT? BEA -- THIS IS MRS. HAZEL HOLSTEIN -- YOUR *A*G*E*N*T!* I KNOW YOU'RE GONNA GET ON GREAT!

GLAD TA MEET'CHA, HONEY! SAY, THAT ISN'T SUCH A BAD SUIT, FOR **MAROON.** SAUL IS **SUCH** A WORRY-WART. WE CAN PICK A NICER COLOR, ANOTHER TIME.

'AV OO FEEN AY FEN?

YOU KNOW, GIMMICKS LIKE UNIFORMS AND OFFBEAT POWERS ONLY GO **SO** FAR. PUBLIC RELATIONS **MAKE** THE SUPERHERO. YOU NEED THE RIGHT JOBS TO MAKE A **NAME** FOR YOURSELF. IT WON'T PAY WELL TO START, BUT IF YOU PLAY THE BREAKS SMART, **YOU** COULD EVEN BE THE NEXT **ÜBERHUND.**

19/7/65

HE STARTED OUT DOING PRO BONOS -- FREEBIES. NOW HE'S A $100 MILLION A YEAR INDUSTRY!

WE CAN'T **ALL** EXPECT TO DO SO WELL ---

BUT I'VE A FEELING THAT YOU'LL GO FAR, IN YOUR OWN WAY. AND DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE **SUIT**, HON. I'VE SEEN WORSE!

MY COUSIN JIMMY -- THE SHORT ONE -- HE WAS PUT UNDER A SPELL TO WEAR THE GRILLE OF A **'52 CADDY** ON HIS HEAD. GOT HANDED A CURSED IGNITION KEY WHEN HE WAS A PARKING VALET. HOW WAS **HE** TO KNOW?

BUT HE **STILL** PUT BOTH HIS GIRLS THROUGH **CHARM SCHOOL.**

ANYWAY, HERE'S A JOB THAT'S A **SUPER** START FOR YOU. —

I... WELLLL...

SURE! FOR A **CLASS-AA** INVULNERABLE, IT'LL BE A **SNAP.** AND IT PAYS **$15,000...**

I'LL CALL A TAXI.

$17.50 LATER...

YOU'RE A **NEW** ONE, **AIN'TCHA** -- A FIRST-TIMER?

UMMM -- S'POSE SO.

SURE Y'ARE! I'D **NEVER** FORGET A "FACE" -- **OR** THAT COLOR. (SHUDDER)

THEY DO IT EVERY TIME. **NEW** ON THE JOB, NO **'SPERIENCE**, AND THEY THROW YOU RIGHT INTO A **TOUGH** ASSIGNMENT —

HEY! THE **ARROYO PEQUEÑO** THING IS **NO** LITTLE DEAL!

WELL... REALLY, THEY SAID IT WAS JUST —

BUY

GAS

BEER

TAXI

PIZZA GATUSO · 531-8774

I'VE DRIVEN 'EM ALL — AT LEAST THE ONES THAT AIN'T GOT A **SUPERMOBILE** OR CAN'T **FLY**.

BUT THERE **WAS** THE TIME I DROVE **ÜBERHUND** TO —

HE WAS IN HIS **SECRET IDENTITY** OF COURSE, AND — WHOOPS

SPARE CHANGE ?

STOP THERE! I'M AFRAID YOU CAN'T COME THROUGH.

THE AGENCY SENT ME.

X

OH. YEAH. WE'VE BEEN EXPECTIN' YEH ---

JUST GO STRAIGHT IN.

STOP FOR BADGE

OH,OH.

205

ROLL UP WINDOWS

HAZARDOUS TO LEAVE ROAD

ARROYO PEQUEÑO

NUCLEAR FACILITY

"CLEAN, SAFE POWER"

SAFE IN A LEAD-LINED SHELTER...

SO **YOU'RE** THE SUPERHERO?

I HATE TO ADMIT IT, BUT YEAH.

YOUNG LADY, I **DON'T** THINK YOU APPRECIATE THE GRAVITY OF THE SITUATION.

ELEVEN DAYS AGO, **NORAD** TRACKED AN UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT ENTERING EARTH'S UPPER ATMOSPHERE.

SMALL, VERY DENSE, EVIDENTLY NOT A **NATURAL** OBJECT. AND COMING FROM DEEP SPACE, IT WASN'T A **WARHEAD**, EITHER.

ITS TRAJECTORY ENDED EXACTLY EIGHT AND A HALF MILES NORTH-WEST OF RAIN CITY... HERE.

IMPACTING REACTOR UNIT ONE AT OVER 22,000 MPH. TO SAY THE RESULT WAS... SPECTACULAR... WOULD BE QUITE AN UNDERSTATEMENT. FIFTEEN DEAD. FALLOUT SEVENTY MILES INLAND. AND WORST OF ALL, ARROYO PEQUEÑO WAS ONLY ONLINE A YEAR. COMPANY'S LOSING A BUNDLE ON THIS.

CONTAINMENT TOOK A WEEK.

BUT THAT WASN'T THE PROBLEM!

INSTEAD, WE DISCOVERED WE HAD... AN INTRUDER!

WHATEVER IT WAS, IT SEEMS TO HAVE CRAWLED UNDER THE CORE, OR WHAT'S LEFT OF IT. THERE WAS A COMPLETE MELTDOWN. WE'RE NO LONGER EXACTLY SURE OF THE REACTOR'S CURRENT MASS CONFIGURATION. IT JUST SORT OF... RAN DOWN TO THE BOTTOM IN A BIG PUDDLE.

SWELL.

BAUSER

ORIGINAL STRUCTURE

BREACH

COLLAPSED LEVELS

MELTDOWN PIT

ASSORTED WRECKAGE

CORE MASS

TO COMPLICATE MATTERS, THE INTRUDER DOESN'T SEEM ALONE. IT HAS SENTRIES OF A SORT -- HALF ALIVE, HALF MACHINE. THEY'RE CAPABLE OF FIRING HIGH-INTENSITY NEUTRON BEAMS.

BUT IT'S MAIN DEFENSE IS JUST THE ENORMOUS RADIATION FLUX FROM THE MELTDOWN. OUR SCIENTISTS SAY IT MUST FEED ON THE STUFF. NOT THAT WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO THE CREATURE TO EXAMINE IT DIRECTLY.

OF COURSE.

WHAT WE REALLY NEED NOW IS A NAME CLASS-A SUPERHERO. BUT, DUE TO BUDGET CUTS, WE CAN ONLY AFFORD AN "UNKNOWN" TO IMPLEMENT...

THIS.

THIS? AH, WHAT IS IT?

THE "INSTRUMENT" OF REMOVAL. OPEN IT ONLY IN THE PRESENCE OF THE CREATURE ITSELF. ITS USE WILL BE SELF-EXPLANATORY.

DANGER!

I DON'T **BELIEVE** THIS! A RADIATION-HUNGRY SPACE BEAST HOLES UP IN A NUCLEAR REACTOR AND **NOBODY** DOES ANYTHING FOR MORE THAN A WEEK BECAUSE THE LOCAL UTILITY IS **TOO CHEAP** TO SPRING FOR A **FIRST-RATE** SUPERHERO --

SO HERE **I** AM, A CUT-RATE "INVULNERABLE", CLIMBING INTO A RADIOACTIVE HELL TO EVICT **GAWD-KNOWS WHAT** FROM **WHO-KNOWS WHERE,** JUST AS THOUGH I **KNEW** WHAT I WAS DOING.

ADMITTEDLY, THE $15,000 --- WELL, **$13,500,** AFTER THE **AGENCY** TAKES **THEIR** BITE --- WILL COME IN AWFULLY **HANDY.**

YOW! **THAT'S** A SENTRY?

WHAT A **SWELL** TIME THIS IS FOR **SUPER-SPEED!**

WISH I **HAD** IT!

YUCH! — MOLTEN PLUTONIUM! I GOTTA BE GETTING NEAR THE CORE!

DANGER

EEP! THERE... THERE IT IS! THE CREATURE!

OKAY, "THING FROM ANOTHER PLANET"... WHAT I'VE GOT HERE GIVES YOU **NO CHOICE** BUT TO LEAVE!

IT'S... IT'S... *AN EVICTION NOTICE?*

IT'S LEGAL?

OH, POOP!

HERE, I WAS GOING TO **REDECORATE.**

I **DO** SO LIKE MAROON.

A LONG, HARD CLIMB LATER—

AND HERE WE HAVE THE FRESH, **NEW** FACE IN THE SUPERHERO FIELD THAT HAS **JUST** EVICTED THE DREADFUL ALIEN **MENACE!**

RADIATION CHECK — **OKAY?**

IN A SEC.

KFUR

ANY WORD FOR OUR RAIN CITY VIEWERS? AND WHAT'S WITH THE **UNCOOL** JUMPERS?

TIC TIC TIC

LIVE

"THE SUIT? WELL, UM, I GOT THAT FROM SOME PAN-DIMENSIONAL, HYPER-INTELLIGENT BEINGS, SEE..."

THANK **YOU**, DEE!

AND THIS IS **VICKY VELOX,** KAY-EF-**YOO**-AR, REPORTING TO **YOU** FROM ARROYO PEQUEÑO! ***BY-EEE!***

THAT'S **BEA.**

CONGRATS, **SWEETY!** WATCHED YOUR COVERAGE FROM THE BUNKER. **NOT BAD** — FOR FIRST TIME OUT.

THEN WHY DO I FEEL SO MUCH LIKE A **DAMNED FOOL?**

WELL -- **HOW** DID IT GO?

OH, THE ACTUAL **WORK** WASN'T ALL THAT AWFUL. **BUT!** THE HASSLES AND THE B.S. -- ***WOOOSH!***

"FISH"

BLAH BLAH BLA

MORE PAPERWORK

HEH. JUST BE GLAD **I'M** HERE TO DO MOST OF THE PAPERWORK FOR YOU, HONEY. I'LL TAKE THOSE NOW, IF YOU'RE DONE WITH THEM.

YOU'LL NEED TO SIGN THESE **TOO,** IN A MOMENT.

46. EXPENSES TRANSPORTATION
AMOUNT $12.14
Cab fare to d

YOU KNOW, IN THE "GOOD OLD DAYS", A SUPERHERO DIDN'T **NEED** AN AGENT, OR EVEN A **LAWYER.** CITY HALL'D JUST **WAIVE** EVERYTHING -- **"IN GRATITUDE FOR SERVICE"** AND ALL THAT.

BUT THEN THE SUPERS GOT INTO **TV.** AT FIRST, IT WAS ALL IN **FUN.** WITH MERCHANDISING AND MULTIMEDIA TIE-INS, IT TURNED INTO **REAL** MONEY. EVERYTHING GOT DEAD SERIOUS.

THEN THE **COURTS** WERE INVOLVED. BY THE WAY, **HUNGRY?**

THANKS, NO. THE SUIT, YOU SEE --

LUCKY YOU! THAT FIGURE **AND** A COSTUME THAT COUNTS CALORIES FOR YOU! I GAVE UP DIETING AGES AGO. **ME,** I'M OFF TO THE CHINESE BAKERY, FOR A PORK BUN AND A TEA.

NO. 941 | NAME BEATRIX

AS I WAS SAYING --

-- THE COURTS STARTED IN ON SUPERS, THEN THE **ACLU.** I CAN'T BE DOWN ON THE ACLU, THOUGH.

AFTER ALL, THEY HELPED THE **MARTIAN MOUSE HUNTER** WITH HIS CITIZENSHIP.

AND GOT A BETTER DECISION ON THE SUPER SENSES RULING. DID YOU KNOW THE SUPREME COURT WAS **GOING** TO MAKE SUPER-SENSE EVIDENCE INADMISSABLE?

ANYWAY -- THERE WERE ALL THESE **LIABILITY** CASES...

HOME!

HEY BEA! -- YOU'RE SMILIN'!

-- BEEN UP TO A LOT OF FUN HERO TYPE STUFF?

MUCH AS I HATE TO ADMIT IT, YEAH. AND I SORTED ALL YOUR TAPES, TOO!

UH HUH -- AND?

-- I MADE $15,000 DOING THE HERO THING!

GET OUTTA HERE!

YEP! I SHOULD BE ON THE SIX O'CLOCK NEWS, TOO. ANY MINUTE NOW.

BLA BLA BLAH BLABAH // BLAHBLABA BLAH BLA BLAH BLAH BLA BLAB /

BLABLA BLAH BLAH? LAB BLA BLA BLAH AH BLABABABAH!

BLAH BLABA BLAH AH BLAW BLA! BU BLABAH BLAH BLAH

SAINT CLARE OF ASSISI

SOUVENIR OF TIJUANA

BEA! HERE IT IS!

OFF ON

HI! I'M VICKY VELOX AND YOU'RE NOT! =GIGGLE= I'M POSING IN THE LATEST NEW YORK FASHION, OUTSIDE THE DEVASTATED ARROYO PEQUEÑO REACTOR SITE. EARLIER TODAY, A "NOBODY" SUPER-HERO IN A TACKY COSTUME FORCED AN INNOFFENSIVE SPACE VISITOR FROM A FACILITY CRITICS CALLED THE MOST DANGER-

DID I MISS IT? SHOOT!

NOOO, NO... NOT REALLY.

OH?

IF IT WAS **ANYONE** BUT THAT SMUG, SELF-CENTERED BITCH, **VICKY**, I'D SAY IT WAS PRETTY **LOUSY** COVERAGE.

THAT GOOD?

DIDN'T EVEN GET YOUR NAME RIGHT.

FISH STICKS?

SIZZLE

POP

BLA BLABBA BLA -OOTS HE SCORRES RAH BLAH HA HHA!

OUCH! THEY'RE A LITTLE **HOT!** YOU'RE TAKING THIS AWFUL WELL, YOU KNOW.

HEY! I JUST PULLED OFF MY FIRST STINT AS A **SUPERHERO.** I'VE MADE HALF A **YEAR'S** PAY IN AN **HOUR** AND I HAVEN'T EVEN SOLD OUT TO THE MEDIA YET!

FORGET THE FROZEN FISH STICKS, LET'S **CELEBRATE!** THERE'S A SPECIAL ON TERIYAKI BACK BACON ON A BUN AND CHILI FRIES AT **NEETER'S.** I'M BUYING!

AL-RIIIIGHT!

OH -- I HAVEN'T ACTUALLY **GOT** THE CHECK FROM THE AGENCY. ALL I HAVE FOR NOW IS THE RENT MONEY.

OKAY, WE'LL **PAY IT BACK.** NOTHING NEW.

TATTOOS

REED ST.

IRMA'S VARIETY

THE REAL STUFF

POWER CHUCK CARS

JOKE

NICKEL-DIME

ALFON

FINE LATIN-A RICA

D.M. LUM SPIRITS

SO, YOU GOT A SUPERHERO NAME YET?

OH PLEEZ!

THAT $15,000 -- IS THAT **GROSS** OR **NET?**

GROSS. THE AGENCY TAKES 10%, THEN THERE'S FEES, INSURANCE, AND OF COURSE, STATE, FEDERAL 'N SUR TAX.

JUST SO THERE'S ENOUGH TO COVER THE RENT AFTER.

OUGHTA BE -- GIVE OR TAKE A FIN.

FIN!

'96

T-SHIRTS!

SHOW YOUR APPRECIATION OF BEATRIX IN ALL HER MOODS! THIS DELIGHTFUL SILK-SCREENED SHIRT IS MADE OF A 50/50 PRE-SHRUNK, HEAVYWEIGHT COTTON BLEND FOR COMFORT AND DURABILITY.

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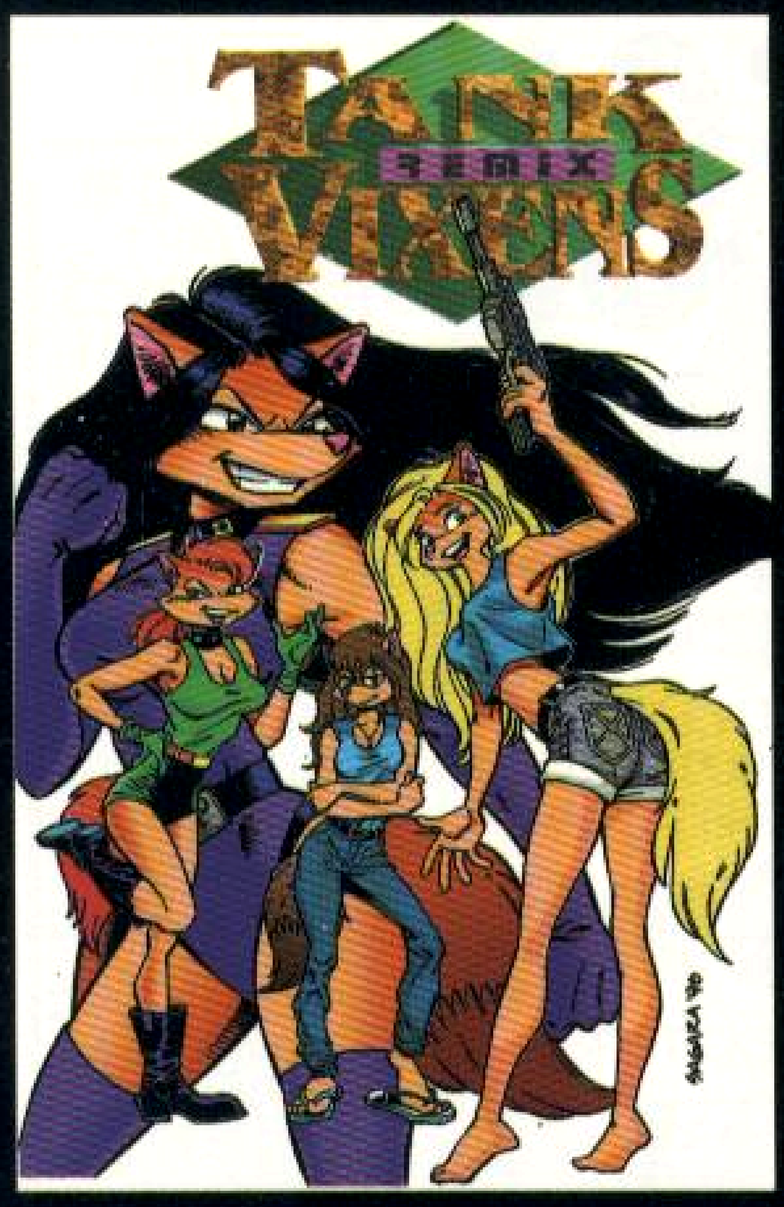
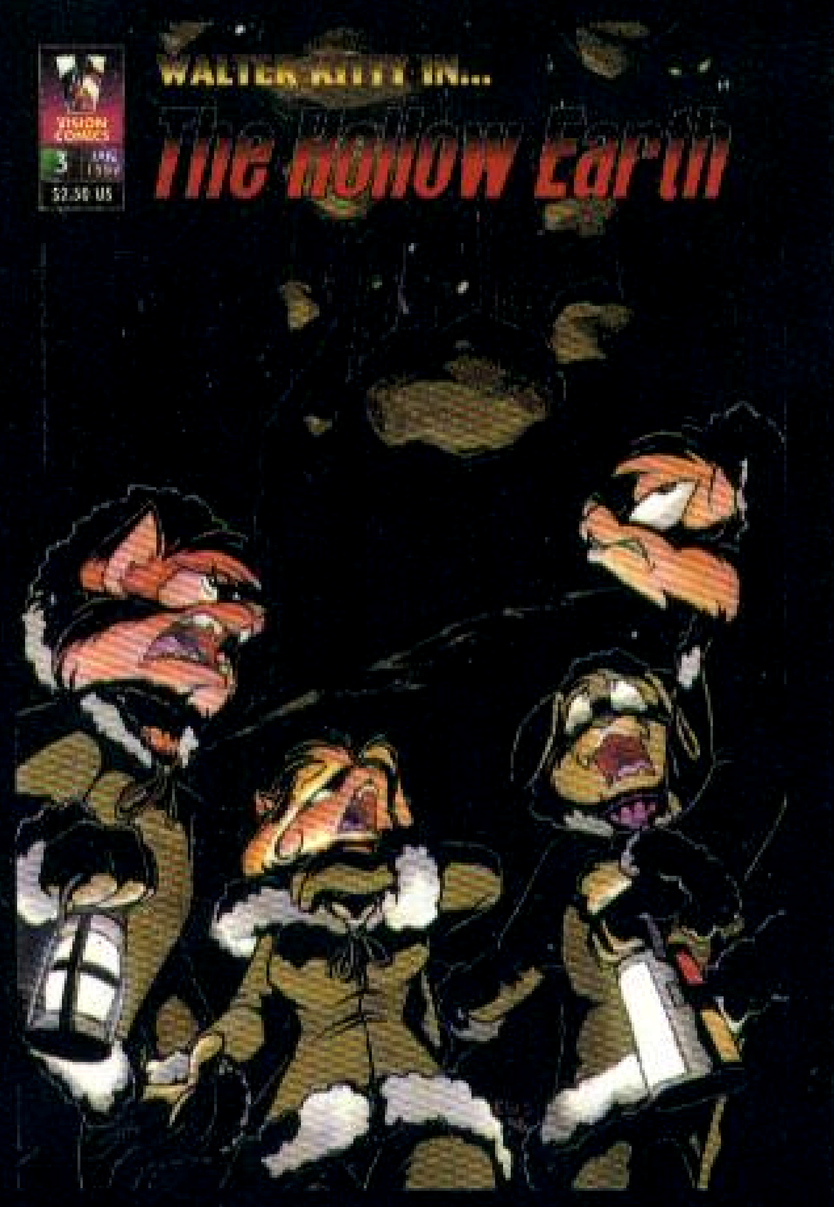
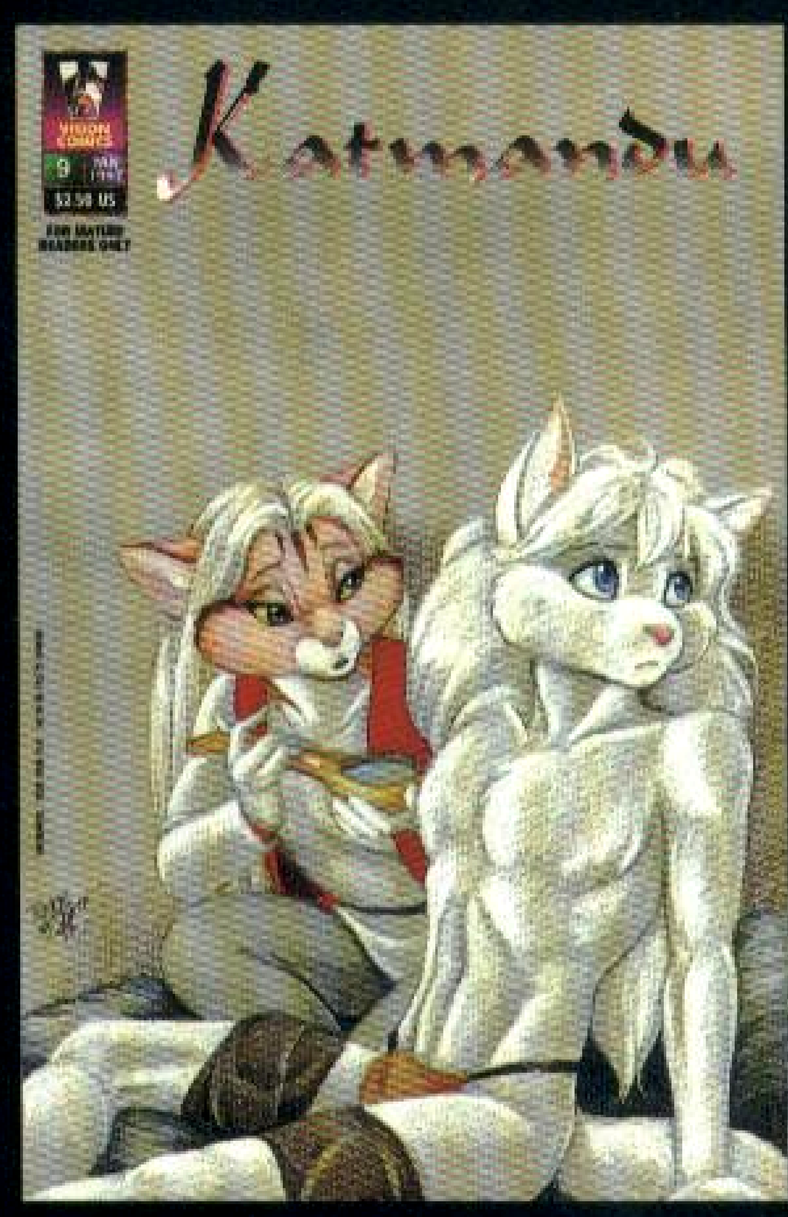
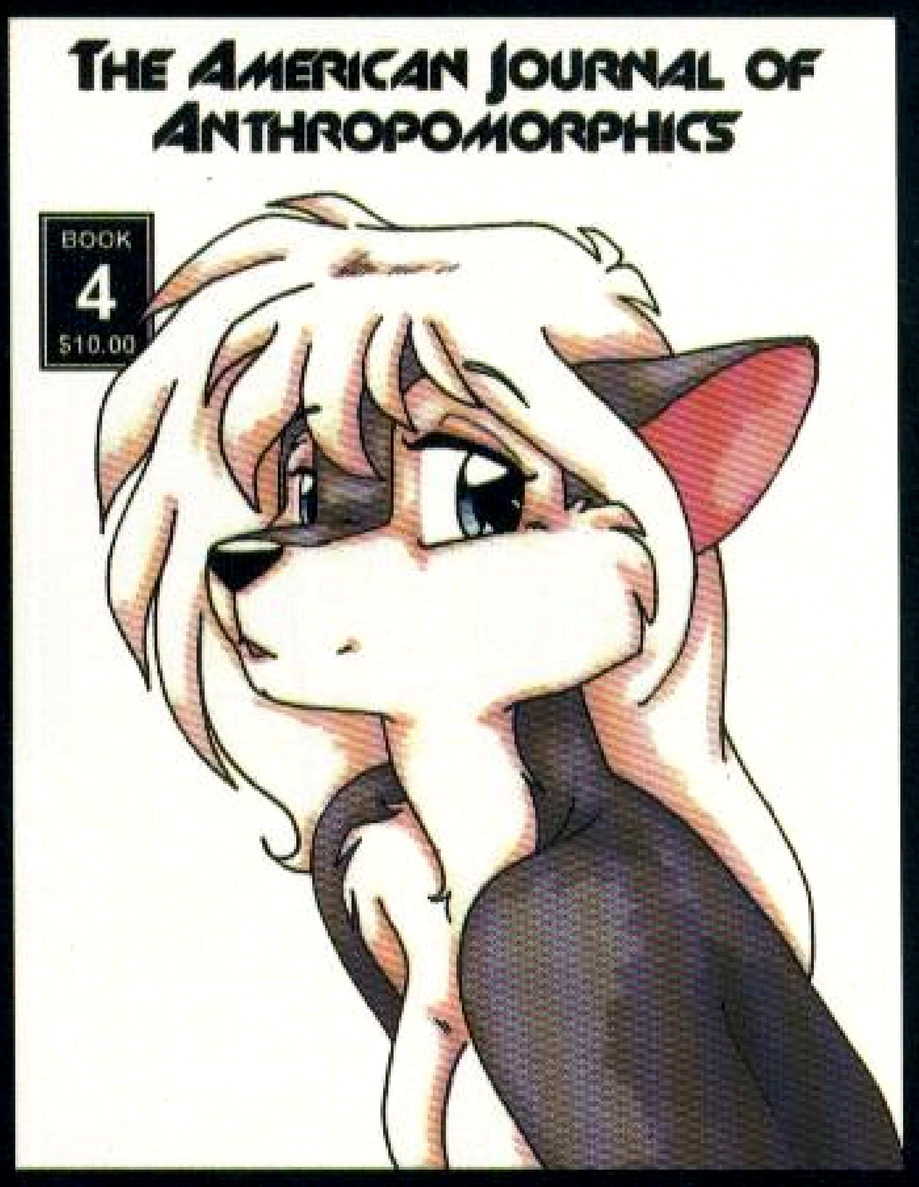
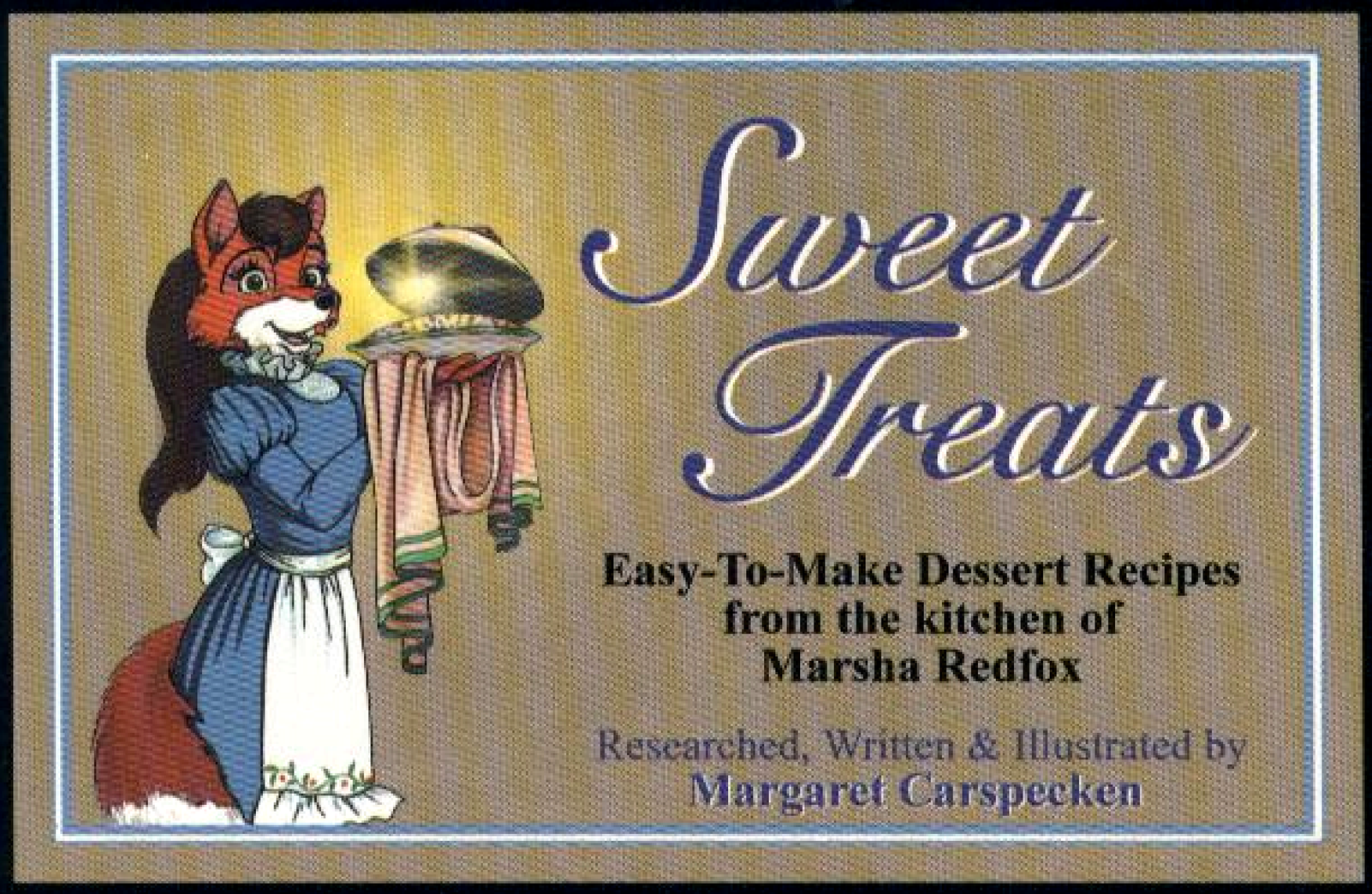






JUST A FEW OF THE LATEST TITLES FROM VISION COMICS

PUTTING THE FUN BACK IN FUNNY ANIMALS!